REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the due consideration given the application.

Claims 15, 16, 19-22, 25 and 26 are pending in the application.

No new matter is believed to be added to the application by this response.

Rejection over Murase et al.

Claims 15, 16, 19-22, 25 and 25 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Murase et al. (U.S. Patent 5,907,658). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention pertains to the reproduction of play lists. The present invention is illustrated, by way of example, in Figures 8a-8d of the application, which are reproduced below.

FIG. 8(a)

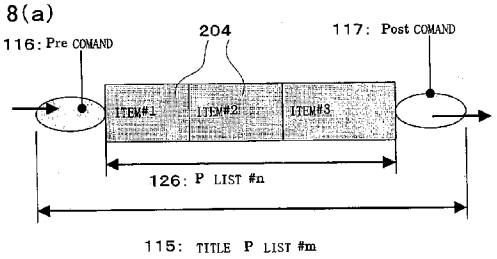


FIG. 8(b)

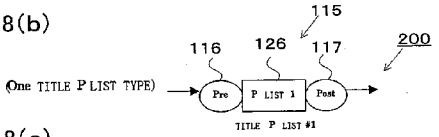


FIG. 8(c)

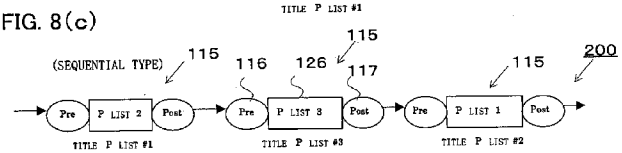
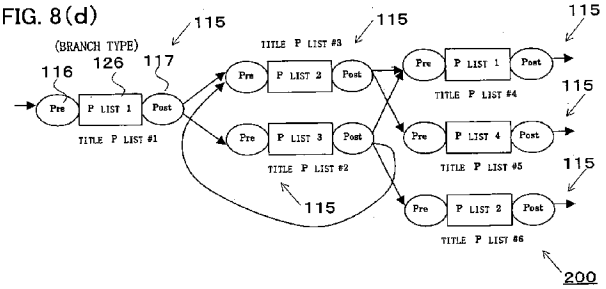


FIG. 8(d)



Claim 15 of the present invention typically sets forth an object information file, a play list information file and a disc information file and recites: “each of the object data file, the play list information file, the object information file and the disc information file is collectively recorded into different area, respectively.”

Murase et al. pertain to a multimedia optical disk and reproduction apparatus directed at interactive gaming. The Official Action refers (among others) to Figure 2A for a recording medium, Figures 4A and 4B for logical flow and Figure 24 for recording (see below).

Fig. 2A

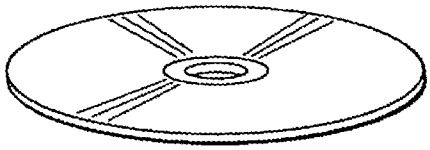


FIG. 4A

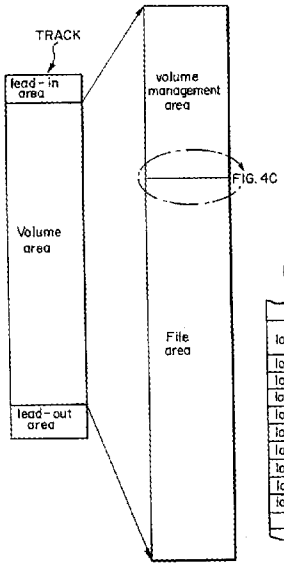


FIG. 4C

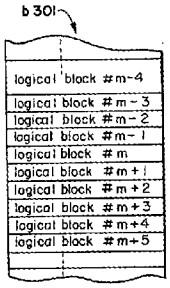


Fig. 4B

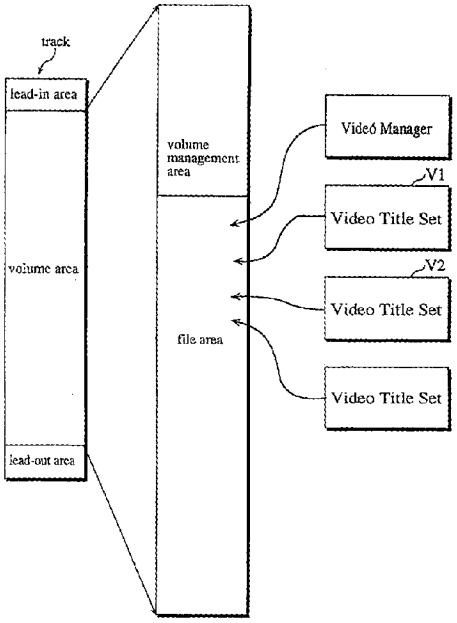
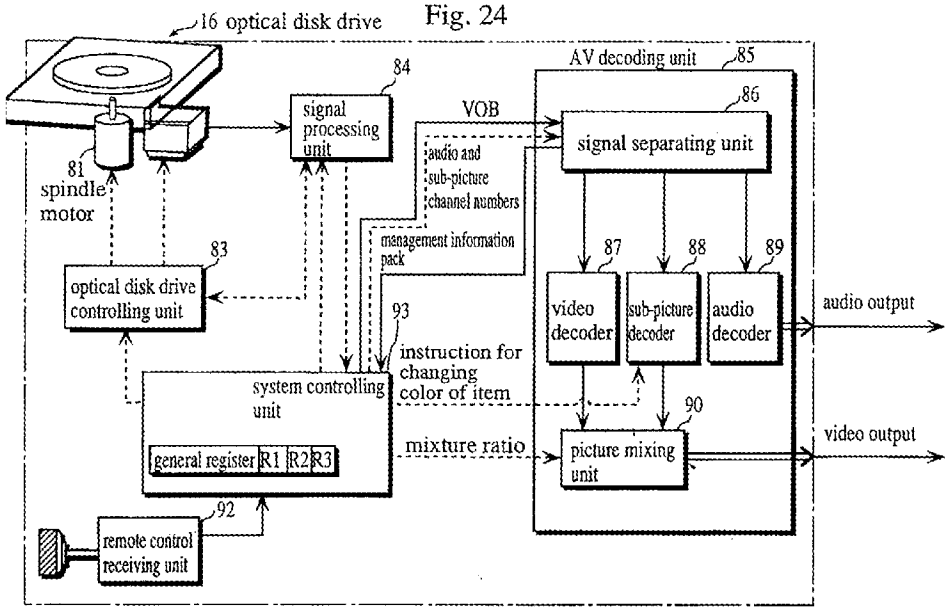


Fig. 24



However, Murase et al. do not disclose the novel feature of the present invention such that there are recorded, in the disc information file, ***play list specification information aside from the play list information***.

In the present invention, because one play list information can be specified by each of two different play list specification information, it is possible to change the combination of same play list information with the different Pre commands or the different Post commands.

More specifically, it is possible to combine the play list information #1, which is specified by the play list specification information #1 included in information group #1, with the Pre command #1 or the Post command #1, which is included in information group #1 and to combine the play list information #1, which is specified by the play list specification information #2 included in information group #2, with the Pre command #2 or the Post command #2, which is included in information group #2. As a result, it is possible to reduce, as a whole, the recording capacity required for the information recording medium to reproduce the title, because it is not needed to record the same play list information redundantly in order to record the plurality of reproduction sequences with different Pre commands or Post commands (See page 7, line 18 to page 8, line 8 of the specification of the present invention).

On the other hand, the Office Action asserts that "*Murase teaches . . .(i) play list specification information for specifying one play list information stored in said play list information file (in at least Figs 12A and 12B — specifying*

specific program chain from PGC management information table)."

However, column 19, lines 6-8 of Murase et al. discloses that "*The PGC management information table stores a plurality of pieces of PGC information.*" This means that the PGC management information table is the PGC information (program chain) itself. Namely, the PGC management information table is not information which is different from the PGC information and which specifies the PGC information.

In addition, in Murase et al., the reproduction is performed by using the PGC information in which the program chain (i.e., VOB address information table) is fixed to the PGC command table. Therefore, technically, it is extremely ***difficult or impossible to share the same program chain*** because the program chain is fixed to the PGC command table.

Furthermore, it is also ***difficult or impossible to generate a different title by combining a different command to the same program chain.*** This means that it is needed to record the same program chain #1 redundantly in order to prepare the PCG information #1 which includes the program chain #1 and command #1 and the PGC information #2 which includes the program chain #1 and command #2.

Murase et al. also do not disclose another novel feature of the present invention such that "*each of the play list information file which stores the play list and the object information file which stores the address is recorded into different area.*" See the independent claims.

More specifically, in Murase et al., the address information (for example, VOB #N address information and pre /

post-processing command start address pointer) is included in one PGC information. This means that, in Murase et al., each of the address information and the PGC information is recorded into the same area. In other words, in Murase et al., the address information is fixed to the PGC information.

On the other hand, in the present invention, because each of the play list information files which stores the play list and the object information file which stores the address is recorded into different areas, the address information is not fixed to the play list. Therefore, it is possible to share the same address information over the different play list information (or over the different item information).

Consequently, Murase et al. do not disclose the aforementioned novel features of the present invention. Furthermore, these novel features of the present invention are not inferred to the skilled person.

Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn, as is respectfully requested.

Request for Interview

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the applicants' representative at the telephone number below in order to arrange an interview.

Conclusion

The Examiner is thanked for considering the Information Disclosure Statements filed July 16, 2004 and November 24, 2004 and for making initialed PTO-1449 Forms of record in the application.

Prior art of record but not utilized is believed to be non-pertinent to the instant claims.

The rejection is believed to have been overcome, obviated or rendered moot, and no issues remain. The Examiner is accordingly respectfully requested to place the application in condition for allowance and to issue a Notice of Allowability.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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